

## Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-10 INT-05 IO-14 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-09 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-20 AF-10 ARA-15 EA-12 NEA-10 ( ISO ) W

-----073814 092328Z /70

R 081417Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7587

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

UNCLAS ATHENS 7826

USUN FOR WINSTON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, GR

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA: PRESS COMMENT, AUGUST 31-SEPT 7

REF: A) ATHENS 7544, B) STATE 213883 (USUN 3222)

1. THREE SHORT REPORTS ON THE RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION OF THE UN LOS CONFERENCE WERE PUBLISHED DURING THIS PERIOD, ALL IN PRO-GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS. THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT TO DATE.

2. ON AUGUST 31, AKROPOLIS NOTED THAT "THE COMPETENT (LOS) COMMITTEE ON CONTINENTAL SHELF MATTERS... DID NOT REACH ANY DECISION BECAUSE ITS MEMBERS WERE SPLIT BETWEEN THE IRISH FORMULA (A GEOLOGICAL FORMULATION), THE SOVIET METHOD (THE ADDITION OF ANOTHER 100 MILES TO THE ECONOMIC ZONE OF 200 MILES) AND THE ARAB ONE (SUPPORTING A 200 MILE

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MAXIMUM)." AKROPOLIS CONTINUED THAT THE COMPETENT COMMITTEE DEALING WITH MATTERS OF DEMARCATION ALSO DEALT WITH THE ISSUE OF THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES ARISING FROM DEMARCATION DETERMINATIONS. IT ADDED THAT GREECE SUPPORTS THE PRICIPLE OF COMPULSORY ARBITRATION TO SETTLE SUCH DISPUTES.

3. ON SEPTEMBER 7, APOYEVMATINI, AND ITS SISTER PAPER AKROPOLIS, DEALT BRIEFLY WITH THE QUESTION OF THE "STATUS OF ISLANDS" AND THEIR RIGHTS TO A CONTINENTAL SHELF AND TERRITORIAL WATERS. THE ACCOUNTS SAID THAT THESE MATTERS, WHICH APOYEVMATINI CHARACTERIZED AS "CRITICAL FOR GREECE," WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE. THE GREEK POSITION WAS THAT ISLANDS MUST HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS OTHER PORTIONS OF A NATION AND BOTH PAPERS SAID THAT THIS POSITION WAS SUPPORTED BY A "SUFFICIENTLY GREATER" NUMBER OF COUNTRIES THAN THOSE THAT TRIED TO LIMIT THE RIGHTS OF ISLANDS.

4. THE ARTICLE IN APOYEVMATINI ALSO MENTIONED BRIEFLY THAT THE GREEK LOS CONFERENCE DELEGATES HAD FAVORED TAKING MIDDLE LINES AS A TEMPORARY, INTERMEDIATE SOLUTION TO BORDER ISSUES. IN THE EVENT THAT THIS INTERIM ARRANGEMENT WAS ADOPTED, THE REPORT CONCLUDED, GREECE ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THE "ABSTENTION (OF NEIGHBORING STATES) FROM ANY ACTION WHICH COULD SHARPEN DIFFERENCES AND WORSEN THE SITUATION."  
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## Message Attributes

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